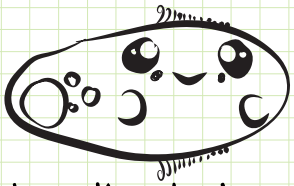
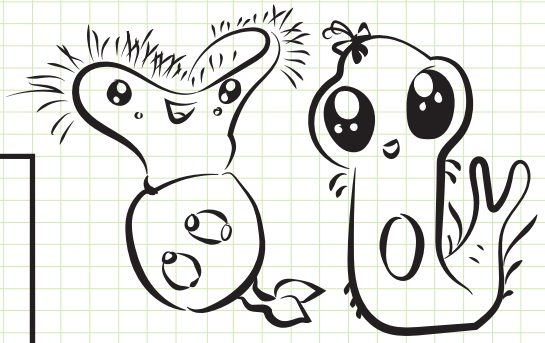


Pond Water Creatures

Cell Biology – Observe algae cells, protists, and more

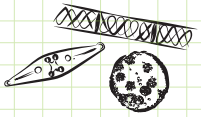


Look at droplets of pond water with Petri & Meeka Microscope

Use the identification guide to identify your discoveries

Bacteria

Single celled dots or strands. Meeka sees bacteria as the tiniest specs.



Algae

Single celled or multicellular. Green photo synthesizers. Spirogyra stacks in single celled strands. Diatoms have tiny hairs for mobility and hard cell walls made of silica.

Protozoa

Single celled eukaryotic organisms. Protists are very diverse and are grouped into their own Kingdom.

Rotifers

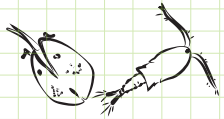
Specialized, multicellular, up to 5 eyes, large round mouth covered in flagella for swimming and catching food, one foot, has social behaviors

Gastrotrichs

Microscopic, hairy, worm-like animal. The majority live on and between particles of sediment or on other submerged surfaces on the bottom of lakes and oceans

Worms

Thin, long, wriggley, microscopic worms. Bristle worms have segmented bodies, Nematodes do not. Amphileptus looks like a slug.



Arthropods

Jointed legs, antanae, crustations, lay eggs *(Kopi, Nainoa, Tuni)*

Amoebas

Blobs with no cell wall, when they move they look like they are spilling liquid

Insect Larvae

Wide variety of forms, jointed, wriggley, legs, joints, worms

What Micropets did you find?

Identify your critters and draw and describe your discoveries.

STEMTaught

Name:

Thinking and discussion:

You will love looking at drops of water from different places! Discovering tiny microscopic creatures for the first time for yourself can be as exciting as any first discovery. The first microscopic organisms were discovered in 1670 and we have only just begun to understand their importance to our lives and the environments that we live in. Did you see any unicellular organisms or strands of algae cells? Look carefully for the smallest creatures in your water droplets.